

S.N. 10/771,098  
Art Unit 3611

3.

### REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6 and 7 are in the case.

With this amendment, Claim 1 has been revised to clearly state that the improvement of the invention relates to the internal combustion engine being operative to directly drive the drive wheels of the tractor unit while the trailer unit is driven by batteries connected to electric drive means.

This amendment is believed to clearly point out that the claimed invention is different from that which is shown in the prior art. As previously stated, Moll et al describes a system wherein both the tractor unit and the trailer unit are driven by electric motors. The secondary reference of Long et al is directed to a conventional hybrid electric vehicle and not to a tractor trailer arrangement.

In view of the above, it is believed that the claims now clearly and patentably define over the art of record.

Respectfully,



Eric Fincham  
Reg. 28,201

### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 at Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date set forth below.



Eric Fincham, Reg. 28,201

Date

Feb 15, 2006.